



INFORMATION UPDATE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Newsletters/index.asp

Seattle Water Supply Indicators

Water Storage	
Reservoir Inflows	
Snowpack	
Customer Use	
Overall	
Good Fair Poor	

For more information, visit www.savingwater.org

chlorine less than 0.2 mg/L was 11 in February (out of 830 samples). Three of the low chlorine samples were from purveyor areas. The average temperature in the distribution system in February was 6.4 degrees Celsius, with a range of 3.1 to 9.4.

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is meeting bi-weekly. Samples are rated on a scale from one to nine, with one representing the best and nine representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) sample in February was 4.8 and described as plastic. Most likely this result is due to the algal bloom in Lake Youngs. The ozone dose has been increased to help reduce this flavor. The Tolt supply result was 1.2.

Lake Youngs Status

Lake Youngs' algal biovolume is showing that Tabellaria is blooming early, and may have started to die off. The most recent total algal biovolume was 5.0 mm³/L, but the biovolume peaked at 15 mm³/L on February 26. This is the second-highest peak since monitoring began in 1990. The timing of the bloom is very early. We will continue to monitor this bloom closely. The bloom has caused higher than normal turbidity levels in Lake Youngs (around 0.85 NTU). This should not present a noticeable change for the customers.



Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data

There were no positive coliform samples from the purveyor areas during February 2009 (Seattle direct service area also had no positive samples). Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.57 to 1.27 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.93 mg/L. The chlorine residual targets for both the Tolt Treatment Facility and the Cedar Water Treatment Facility are 1.5 mg/L. The number of samples with

The total coliform counts are normal in Lake Youngs for winter. The average Lake Youngs raw water total coliform count for February was four, with a range of zero to 47 cfu/100mL.

SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, (206) 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, (206) 684-0216



Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at <http://www.savingwater.org>

DOH WATER USE EFFICIENCY RULE SPU Preparing Regional Conservation Program Results

First, a BIG Thank You to SWP utilities for completing the annual Wholesale Customer Survey on time. Everyone got them in when we needed them! Supplying that information enables SPU staff to analyze regional water use and determine regional conservation program savings. Speaking of which, by April 1, SPU will be providing SWP partners with a sample DOH Annual Report Form filled out with regional program savings, a statement of progress toward the regional goal, and a list of measures we are currently implementing (a new requirement in this year's form). Text and graphics from SPU's Consumer Confidence Report will be provided to wholesale customers for your optional use when it is available, some time in April. If you have any questions, please contact Miale Jose.

CONTACT: Miale Jose, (206) 615-1452

RESIDENTIAL INDOOR Products Delivered for *Fix a Leak Week* March 16-20

From March 16 - 20, 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will sponsor a national campaign titled "Fix A Leak Week." This campaign will ask people to check for and repair leaks



around their homes. EPA, through the WaterSense Program, has provided materials and data on the importance of leak repair. The SWP has developed a package of items including shower timers, Wash Full Loads magnet, Save With Every Flush brochures, and dye strips (which have replaced dye tablets as the way to check for leaky toilets) and is delivering these packages to SWP partners. SWP will promote the campaign with Web site information and a press release. Materials for SWP member Web sites will be emailed shortly.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton (206) 733-9137

Appliance Rebate Program Expansion Being Considered

A possible rebate on high efficiency residential dishwashers is being discussed with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and Seattle City Light. After many years of lobbying, Energy Star has included a 5.8 gallon per cycle maximum for Energy Star dishwashers effective July 1, 2009. As a result, water and wastewater utilities could rebate Energy Star dishwashers after that date, knowing that they will get additional water savings. Discussions with PSE and Seattle City Light on cost sharing are underway, and a decision on dishwasher rebates should be made by June.

CONTACT: Al Dietemann, (206) 684-5881



Saving Water Partnership
Seattle and Participating area water Utilities

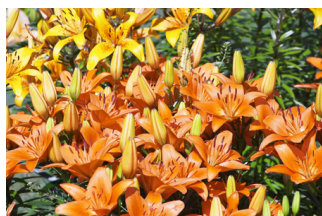
Multi Family Showerhead & Aerator Program Progressing

The Saving Water Partnership along with energy partners Puget Sound Energy and Seattle City Light continues to approach and urge multifamily property owners in our region to participate in the

showerhead and aerator replacement program. The program continues to be extremely cost effective for SWP. One refinement to the program is that the consultant doing the work will contact the conservation person in the wholesale water district in which they are currently working, to keep all partners informed.

CONTACT: Arece Hampton (206) 733-9137

RESIDENTIAL and COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE



Informal Focus Group Yields Insights

Staff partnered with Swansons Nursery to gain gardening customers' perspectives and feedback on our nursery-based education campaigns. Swansons generously used their email customer list to recruit participants and provided a \$25 gift certificate to each attendee. As a result, over 130 people in 24 hours called to register for the focus group. Of the fifteen that were accepted, 13 attended for a two hour session to describe how they make plant choices, where they get their gardening information and what their reactions were to our "right plant, right place" signage, ads and factsheets. During our last nursery promotion, we used the message of "climate smart" in hopes of drawing customers to our messages. However, customers showed us that this did not resonate with them. While the graphics and concepts were praised, they wanted us to keep our messages simpler. They were more interested in signs and ads that led with the specific action (such as "plant in fall" or "choose the right plant") versus trying to hook them with "make your garden climate smart." The focus group not only gave critical insight about the direction of our outreach, but also showed that in some cases, we can leverage our retail partnerships to conduct very successful, low cost discussions with customers.

CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516

Staff Visiting Partners to Plan Irrigation Program Marketing

Jenna Smith and Allegra Abramo are contacting wholesale customers to talk about ideas for reaching customers in each SWP partner service area. Thank you to the partners who have hosted a visit from us already. Look to hear from Jenna or Allegra between now and May, before irrigation season begins in June-July.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955 or Allegra Abramo, (206) 233-5132

Irrigation Seminar Series Taking Place April 20-24

The Saving Water Partnership is co-sponsoring an irrigation contractor training series with the Washington Irrigation Contractors Association (WICA) and the Cascade Water Alliance. Classes to be held at the UW Center for Urban Horticulture include electrical troubleshooting, sprinkler scheduling, a two-day irrigation design class, landscape irrigation auditing, and site water management planning. The classes will prepare participants for certification exams that will be held in late May.

CONTACT: Jenna Smith, (206) 684-5955 or Allegra Abramo, (206) 233-5132



COMMERCIAL WATER CONSERVATION New Sprayhead Program Under Consideration

The Saving Water Partnership is currently determining with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) the level of participation in a new pre-rinse sprayhead program that PSE has already started in some non-SWP areas. This second round of the direct

install sprayhead program, first implemented in 2003 and 2004, will be installing sprayheads as low as 0.6 gallons per minute, providing additional water and energy savings not captured in the first round of the program.

CONTACT: Phil Paschke, (206) 684-5883

One Pint Per Flush Urinals Catching On

The new hot item in water conservation would seem to be the 0.125 or one pint per flush urinals. It is projected that close to 1,000 units will be installed this year in the Saving Water Partnership

service area. SPU Resource Conservation staff and a consultant performed a urinal use study in the Seattle Municipal Tower. Using auto-flush valves with internal counters, the results of a two week analysis demonstrated that at an installed cost of \$600 for materials and labor, the simple payback for these new high efficiency urinals would be less than two years. The next step is to install the new urinals in a portion of the building to determine what to expect if the entire building were retrofitted with new fixtures.

CONTACT: Phil Paschke, (206) 684-5883